

Appl. No. 09/306,813
Reply to Office Action of October 20, 2005

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REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 2-4. In light of the claim modifications, Applicants submit that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicants respectfully submit that the modified claims overcome the Examiner's rejections and accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw these rejections and allow all claims. More specifically, the Examiner had rejected claims of 1, 5 and 6 under section 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner had asserted that the structures described in Figures 2 A and 2 B do not illustrate a single switch that switches between at least three different elements or outputs. For the sake of clarification, Applicants have modified claim 1 to specify that it is a first switch circuit that provides the requisite selective connection.

As described in the specification, at page 9, for example, in the last full paragraph, the specification indicates that it is possible to select that either of the driving pulses and a predetermined voltage or a floating level are supplied to the CCD-analog-shift-register 2 by providing the switch circuits SW1 and SW2 between the terminals of the driving pulses and the CCD-analog-shift-register 2. By providing a series connection of the two different switches described in Figure 2 as noted on page 9 as indicated above, it is readily apparent that the desired signals can be selectively provided. For example, by having the portion of

Appl. No. 09/306,813
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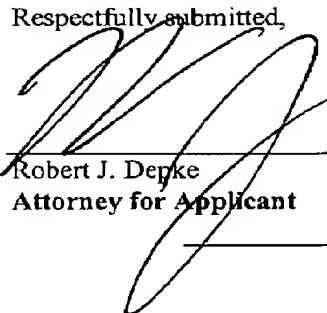
the switch circuit 2A precede the portion of the switch circuit 2B in a series connection, it is possible to achieve any of the three desired outputs. For example with such a connection, when the switch pulse SW Pulse applied to the circuit portion of Figure 2B is a low logic value, the output signal will be a floating value because the transistor of Figure 2B is not conducting and the output is simply floating.

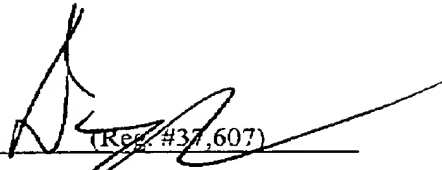
If the switch pulse applied to the circuit portion of Figure 2B is a high logic value, then whatever input is received by this portion of the circuit will be provided at the output. The preceding circuit portion of Figure 2A allows the selection of either the original clock input or a fixed voltage value depending upon whether the switch pulse applied to this portion of the circuit is either a high logic value or a low logic value. A low logic value automatically provides a fixed voltage output.

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification provides more than adequate support to enable a person of ordinary skill in the art to understand that a single switch circuit can be used to provide the convenience selection from among the three specified possibilities. Those skilled in the art would also readily appreciate that a variety of switching configurations can be provided in order to accomplish the same result. Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections under section 112.

Appl. No. 09/306,813
Reply to Office Action of October 20, 2005

In light of foregoing, Applicants submit that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
Date: 7/31/08


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